

204530US0 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE#3a  
NEAC

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

HELMUT AUWETER ET AL

: ATTN: NEW APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW US PCTAPPLN.  
(Based on PCT/EP99/07229)

:

FILED: HEREWITH

:

FOR: DYE-CONTAINING  
POLYMER PARTICLES

:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-11 and add the following claims:

Suit B2  
21  
--12. (New) A process for preparing dye-containing polymer particles containing at least one dye in a matrix of an essentially water-insoluble polymer and having an average particle size within the range from 5 nm to 5  $\mu$ m, which comprises precipitating the polymer particles from a solution of the polymer and of the dye in a water-miscible organic solvent by addition of an aqueous phase.

2 13. (New) A process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the precipitating of the polymer particles is effected in the presence of a protective colloid.

Suit B3  
14. (New) A process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the polymer contains (in each